



Congressman Vito Fossella **News from Capitol Hill**



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July 2005

Breaking News

Fossella Offers Fix for Supreme Court Ruling Allowing Gov't to Seize Your Homes & Businesses

Acting quickly in the wake of the Supreme Court's controversial ruling late last month, Congressman Fossella is cosponsoring legislation that would limit the government's power to seize the homes, small businesses and other private property of the American people.

"We cannot allow the Supreme Court to replace the American Dream of homeownership with this nightmare decision," Fossella said. "What the Supreme Court took away, the Congress must now restore. We must slam the brakes on any attempt by government to seize our homes and small businesses for private developers to build hotels, supermarkets or office buildings."



The legislation would prevent the federal government or any authority of the federal government from using economic development as a justification for exercising its power of eminent domain.

In *Kelo v. City of New London*, the Court held that "economic development" justified seizing the homes of several residents of Connecticut.

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Fossella: \$1 Billion Boost for Vets Healthcare

Responding to funding shortfalls for veterans healthcare, Congressman Fossella voted last week for emergency legislation that will direct nearly \$1 billion in additional federal funding to the Dept. of Veterans Affairs (VA) for the current fiscal year.

Fossella also told Congressional leaders he would support increasing



VA funding for next year over and above the \$68.1 billion passed by the House recently.

Fossella also reaffirmed his opposition to two proposals by the Bush Administration that would have required veterans joining the healthcare system to pay a \$250 enrollment fee and also increased prescription drug co-payments from \$7 to \$15.